

3.0 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION

Sections 3.1 through 3.13 in this chapter include an analysis of the impacts of the proposed project on the following environmental elements: earth, air quality, water, biological resources, energy and natural resources, environmental health, noise, land use, visual resources, historic and cultural resources, transportation, public services and utilities, and socioeconomics, respectively. Cumulative impacts are discussed in Section 3.14.

Each section also includes a summary of impacts subsection (including a discussion of design features) and a discussion of mitigation measures where applicable. Mitigation measures are measures taken to avoid or reduce significant environmental impacts. Some measures that would reduce or eliminate environmental impacts are included as part of the design of the proposed project, and are therefore discussed as part of the proposed project (“design features”). Recommended mitigation measures are discussed in the Mitigation Measures subsection of each section, and will be considered for inclusion in the Record of Decision and Benton County Conditional Use Permit.